

sDiv sabbatical project report

"Understanding the interactive effects of temperature and nutrients on ecological processes: a meta-analysis"

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The status of my project "Understanding the interactive effects of temperature and nutrients on ecological processes: a meta-analysis" is still in progress. The database construction is advanced but not yet finished. Although I was hoping to have it finished this by early 2020, multiple factors have delayed this completion beyond expected. I am planning on finishing this database by the end of this summer/beginning of fall, and from there focus on running the analyses (code is in process) and writing (in process).

The highly collaborative environment of iDiv and the generosity of its people in terms of their expertise and time has been a big and important inspiration to my own work. I first thought that coming to iDiv would mean to only dedicate my time only to the proposed original project, and very quickly found myself interacting and collaborating with a much larger group of people. iDiv is a place where an amazing diversity of scholars congregate and acts as a hot spot of collaborative work because there is freedom to exchange ideas and knowledge. As I don't get that in my own institution (i.e., only two ecologists in our department), having the chance to create new collaborative bonds that I think would last long, it opened new opportunities for my research. I am truly grateful for that. Further, my first stay at iDiv promoted more collaborative work in the form of a working group sBiomaps, which had its first meeting last November, and our expectations for what our group will produce at high.

The working atmosphere at sDiv/iDiv is extremely inspiring, friendly, fun, inclusive, collaborative, supportive, flexible and, exciting. sDiv and all people involved, group leaders, postdocs, administrative people have created an extremely welcoming environment. My ideal working environment is one centered around collaborations and open discussions with other scientists, and one that allow everybody's ideas to be considered. During my time at iDiv, I felt fully engaged and inspired by the openness, positivity, and willingness of all people to hear and discuss ideas. I loved sharing a space with more early career fellows, and had the chance to interact with

such a great group of smart, fun, friendly, creative, and hardworking people. iDiv provided an ideal work atmosphere for me, I was deeply impressed, and I feel very privileged to have had such a valuable experience. I want to thank the sDiv admin team for helped me navigate the initial challenges of learning the German system, and making my stay very smooth and pleasant.

In addition to my sDiv project, I started a collaboration with Dr. Ulrich Brose and PhD student Jori Maylin Wefer on modelling project “Stoichiometry of flexible food webs” (status, ongoing). I also started a collaboration with Nico Eisenhauer and Postdoc Olga Ferlian on project “Meta-analysis of the impacts of invasive invertebrates and vertebrates on nutrient dynamics” The database has been updated to 2020 papers, and currently I am working on getting final results. Finally, as mentioned above, I have an ongoing working group that involves many iDiv members, with which am thrilled to have the chance to work with.

My priority goal is the conclusion of the original project I started working at sDiv, which should end in a publication during 2021.